

North Carolina Department of
Public Safety, in his official and
individual capacities;

BI INCORPORATED, a Colorado
Corporation, and

RELIANT MANAGEMENT
GROUP, INC., a North Carolina
corporation;

Defendants.

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COMES NOW SANDRA L. GRANT, on behalf of herself and others similarly situated, by and through undersigned counsel, named Plaintiff in the above-captioned case, and does hereby allege and complain of Defendant as follows:

I. Introduction

- 1. Under North Carolina law, at the time a person is convicted of an offense requiring registration as a sex offender (a "reportable conviction" as defined by N.C.G.S. § 14-208.6(4)), a Court must determine whether that person is subject to satellite-based monitoring pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 14-208.40(a) et seq. *See* N.C.G.S. § 14-208.40 45 (establishing the North Carolina satellite-based monitoring program).
- 2. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. §§ 14-208.40A(c) and 14-208.40B(c), if the convicted individual is a "recidivist" as defined by N.C.G.S. § 14-208.6(2b),

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then the court shall order that the individual be placed on satellite-based monitoring for life.

- 3. However, in August 2019 the North Carolina Supreme Court considered the constitutionality of N.C.G.S. §§ 14-208.40A(c) and 14-208.40B(c). *State v. Grady*, 372 N.C. 509, 831 S.E.2d 542 (2019).
- 4. The *Grady* Court noted that North Carolina's satellite-based monitoring program covers three categories of people: "(1) offenders on parole or probation who are subject to state supervision, (2) unsupervised offenders who remain under [satellite-based monitoring] by court order for a number of months or years, and (3) unsupervised offenders subject to [satellite-based monitoring] for life[.]" *Id.* at 511, 546.
- 5. The *Grady* Court refers to these categories as the *Bowditch* categories. *Id.*, citing *State v. Bowditch*, 364 N.C. 335, 338, 700 S.E.2d 1, 3 (2010).
- 6. The *Grady* Court then held that imposition of lifetime satellite-based monitoring of persons not otherwise on probation, parole, or supervised release and based solely upon a finding that an individual is a "recidivist" as defined by N.C.G.S. § 14-208.6(2b) is an unconstitutional search in violation of the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution. *Id.* at 511, 547.
- 7. Specifically, the Court held that "the relevant portions of N.C.G.S. §§ 14-208.40A(c) and 14-208.40B(c) are unconstitutional as applied to all

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individuals who . . . are in the third *Bowditch* category and who are subject to mandatory lifetime [satellite-based monitoring] based solely on their status as a 'recidivist[.]" *Id*.

- 8. The *Grady* Court enjoined imposition of satellite-based monitoring on these individuals. *Id.* at 550, 571.
- 9. —Ms. Grant, the named Plaintiff, and the other members of the class as defined herein, are individuals in the third *Bowditch* category who are subject to lifetime satellite-based monitoring based solely on their status as a recidivist that is, upon application of the portions of N.C.G.S. §§ 14-208.40A(c) and 14-208.40B(c) declared unconstitutional and enjoined by *State v. Grady*.
- 10. After filing of this suit and in direct response to this suit, Defendant ceased satellite-based monitoring of the named Plaintiff Ms. Grant.
- 11. However, given the Defendant's continued monitoring of the remaining class members, Defendant's conduct is capable of repetition and avoiding review.
- Despite the Court's ruling and injunction in *Grady*, Defendants continue Defendant continues to impose satellite-based monitoring upon the named Plaintiff and other class members.

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The continued imposition of satellite-based monitoring upon the named Plaintiff and other class members is in violation of a valid injunction by a court with jurisdiction over the Defendants Defendant and is a violation of a clearly established constitutional right.

II. Jurisdiction and Venue

12.14. This action is brought under Article 1, Section 20 of the North Carolina State Constitution; 42 U.S.C. § 1983; and the common law of the State of North Carolina.

The declaratory and injunctive relief sought is authorized by N.C.G.S. § 1-253, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201 and 2202, North Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure 57 and 65, and by the legal and equitable powers of the Court.

14.16. The damages sought are authorized by 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and the common law of the State of North Carolina.

45.17. As shown below, venue is appropriate in Wake County, North Carolina pursuant to N.C.G.S. §§ 1-79 and 1-82.

III. Parties

16.18. Defendant Erik Hooks is the Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Public Safety (NCDPS).

<u>17.19.</u> He is the state official responsible for the conduct and functions of the NCDPS.

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The Division of Adult Corrections and Juvenile Justice (DACJJ) is an administrative subdivision of the NCDPS. The DACJJ is under the direct control of Defendant Hooks. 19.21. The DACJJ oversees and conducts the North Carolina satellitebased monitoring program. Mr. Hooks is sued in both his official and individual capacities. 22.24. Both NCDPS and NACJJ are headquartered in Wake County, North Carolina. By information and belief, Mr. Hooks is a resident of Wake County, North Carolina. 24. Defendant BI Incorporated ("BI Inc.) is a Colorado Corporation with principal place of business in Colorado. 25. BI Inc. maintains a registered office in Charlotte, North Carolina and regularly conducts business in the state of North Carolina. 26. By information and belief, BI Inc. holds a contract (hereafter the "prime contract") with NCDPS or other state agency under which it conducts satellite based monitoring of the class members on behalf of said agency. 27. Reliant Management Group, Inc. ("Reliant") is a North Carolina corporation with principal place of business in Wake County, North Carolina. 28. By information and belief, under subcontract to BI Inc., Reliant

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Management substantially assists BI Inc. in performing its duties under the prime contract.

29. By information and belief, Reliant physically places, removes, and services the equipment used in satellite-based monitoring.

30. By information and belief, BI Inc. or Reliant monitors the physical location of individuals subject to satellite based monitoring.

31. In performing these activities, BI Inc. and Reliant are acting under color of state law.

32. In performing these activities, BI Inc. and Reliant are performing an exclusive government function—a law enforcement search of private individuals.

Plaintiff Sandra L. Grant is an individual eurrently who was subjected to satellite-based monitoring pursuant to N.C.G.S. §§ 14-208.40A(c) based solely upon determination that she is a recidivist as defined by N.C.G.S. § 14-202.6(2b).

34.27. Ms. Grant is not on probation, parole, or supervised release.

35.28. Ms. Grant resides in Davidson County, North Carolina.

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IV. Class Representation Allegations

Pursuant to N.C. Rule Civ. Proc. 23, this action is brought on behalf of all members of the class as defined below.

The class consists of all persons not currently subject to probation, parole, or post-release supervision who are currently required to submit to lifetime satellite-based monitoring pursuant to N.C.G.S. §§ §§ 14-208.40A(c) and 14-208.40B(c) based solely on the finding that they are a "recidivist" and without findings that they were convicted of an aggravated offense or that they are a sexually violent predator or an adult convicted of statutory rape or statutory sex offense with a victim under the age of thirteen.

38.31. Continued satellite-based monitoring of these persons is an unconstitutional search as found by the North Carolina Supreme Court in State v. Grady, 372 N.C. 509, 551 (2019).

39.32. The North Carolina Supreme Court has enjoined continued satellite-based monitoring of these persons.

40.33. By information and belief, this class is so numerous that joinder is impractical.

41.34. By information and belief, there are approximately one hundred and fifty (150) persons in this class.

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The common questions of law and fact common to the class members predominate over issues affecting only individual class members. Each member brings a common claim: Defendants' Defendant's 43.36. imposition of satellite-based monitoring is an unreasonable search in violation of the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution and Article 1, Section 20 of the North Carolina Constitution. 44. In addition to this claim, or in the alternative, each class member has a claim against BI Inc. and/or Reliant for battery. Plaintiff Sandra L. Grant, the Class Representative, brings a claim typical of the claims of the class. Plaintiff Sandra L. Grant will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class. A class action is superior to other available methods for fairly and efficiently adjudicating the controversy. There is no conflict of interest between Plaintiff Sandra L. Grant and the other class members. Defendants have Defendant has acted or refused to act on grounds that apply generally to the class, so final injunctive relief and corresponding declaratory relief is appropriate respecting the class as a whole.

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The damages suffered by each class member are substantially similar for each class member or are able to be calculated according to a formula applicable to all class members.

V. Statement of Facts

51.43. For each person convicted in North Carolina of a criminal offense requiring registration as a sex offender, the sentencing court completes form AOC-CR-615 ("Judicial Findings and Order for Sex Offenders – Active Punishment").

62.44. On this form, the Court makes findings of fact, specifically including whether or not the offender is subject to satellite-based monitoring, the length of time the offender is subject to satellite-based monitoring, and the basis or bases for imposing satellite-based monitoring.

This form contains all findings of fact made by the court with respect to the imposition of satellite-based monitoring.

This form clearly indicates whether the sole basis for imposing satellite-based monitoring is that the offender is a "recidivist" as defined by N.C.G.S. § 14-208.6(2b).

<u>55.47.</u> By information and belief, a copy of this form (or its substantial equivalent containing the relevant information) is transmitted to the NCDPS along with other relevant records of the criminal conviction at or before

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satellite-based monitoring of the individual begins. See N.C.G.S. §§ 148-74 and 148-76. NCDPS, through its administrative subdivisions, administers probation, parole, and post-release supervision for all persons subject to probation, parole, or post-release supervision in North Carolina. 57.49. NCDPS knows what individuals are currently subject to probation, parole, or post-release supervision in North Carolina. 58.50. Accordingly, NCDPS knows what individuals are members of the class as defined in Paragraph 34 above. 59.51. In the alternative, NCDPS should reasonably know what individuals are members of the class as defined in Paragraph 34 above. By information and belief, NCDPS has reviewed its records and has compiled lists of those persons that are members of the class as defined in Paragraph 34 above. However, NCDPS has continued to impose satellite-based monitoring on Sandra Grant and the other members of the class. 62. Defendant BI Inc. is a private corporation under contract to NCDPS or other state agency.

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63. Pursuant to this contract, BI Inc. conducts satellite based monitoring of the class members on behalf of the State of North Carolina and under color of state law.

64. By information and belief, NCDPS or other state agency provides to BI Inc. copies of form AOC CR 615 or other information substantially equivalent for those persons upon whom BI Inc. conducts satellite based monitoring.

65. By information and belief, BI Inc. is aware what persons upon whom it conducts satellite based monitoring are also subject to probation, parole, or supervised release.

66. By information and belief, BI Inc. knows what individuals are members of the class as defined in Paragraph 34 above.

67. In the alternative, BI Inc. should reasonably know what individuals are members of the class as defined in Paragraph 34 above.

68. However, BI Inc. has continued to impose satellite based monitoring on Sandra Grant and the other class members.

69. Defendant Reliant is a private corporation under subcontract to Defendant BI Inc.

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70. Pursuant to this subcontract, Reliant provides substantial assistance to BI Inc. in performing BI Inc.'s responsibilities under the prime contract.

71. The responsibilities for which Reliant provides substantial assistance include physically placing monitoring equipment upon class members, removing such equipment, and maintaining the equipment used to conduct satellite based monitoring.

72. By information and belief, Reliant knows what individuals are members of the class as defined in Paragraph 34 above.

73. In the alternative, BI Inc. should reasonably know what individuals are members of the class as defined in Paragraph 34 above.

74. However, Reliant has continued to provide the assistance described above to BI Inc.

VI. Causes of Action

B. Article 1, Section 20 of the North Carolina Constitution

1. Defendant Erik Hooks in his official capacity.

- 54. All preceding paragraphs are incorporated herein by reference.
- 55. With regard to the named Plaintiff and each of the class members,

 Defendant Erik Hooks, in his official capacity, is currently conducting a

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"search" within the meaning of Article 1, Section 20 of the North Carolina

Constitution.

56. This search is being conducted on the named Plaintiff and the other class members.

A. Unreasonable Search in Violation of the Fourteenth and Fourth
Amendments of the United States Constitution

1. Defendant Erik Hooks in his official capacity.

75. All preceding paragraphs are incorporated herein by reference.

76. With regard to the named Plaintiff and each of the class members,

Defendant Erik Hooks, in his official capacity, is currently conducting a

"search" within the meaning of the Fourth Amendment of the United States

Constitution.

77. This search is being conducted on the named Plaintiff and the other class members.

78. This search is unreasonable and therefore in violation of the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution.

79. Conduct of this search is in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

Plaintiff, on behalf of herself and the other class members, seeks declaratory relief and requests that an injunction issue against Defendant Erik Hooks, in his official capacity, ordering him to cease satellite-based

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monitoring of the named Plaintiff and the other class members unless and until a court of competent jurisdiction finds that satellite-based monitoring can be imposed on the class member consistent with the Fourth

AmendmentArticle 1, Section 20 of the United StatesNorth Carolina State

Constitution.

2. Defendant Erik Hooks in his individual capacity.

81.58. All preceding paragraphs are incorporated herein by reference.

82.59. With regard to the named Plaintiff and each of the class members, Defendant Erik Hooks, in his individual capacity, is currently conducting a "search" within the meaning of the Fourth Amendment within the meaning of the United States Article 1, Section 20 of the North Carolina Constitution through individuals acting at his direction and under his control.

83.60. This search is being conducted on the named Plaintiff and the other class members.

84.61. This search is unreasonable and in violation of an injunction issued by a court with jurisdiction over Mr. Hooks.

85. This search is in violation in violation of the Fourth and Fourteenth

Amendments of the United States Constitution.

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This search is in violation of clearly established law.

87. This search is in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

88.63. A reasonable person, including Mr. Hooks, would know that this search is in violation of clearly established law.

Plaintiff, on behalf of herself and the other class members seeks declaratory relief and requests that an injunction issue against Defendant Erik Hooks, in his individual capacity, ordering him to cease satellite-based monitoring of the named Plaintiff and the other class members unless and until a court of competent jurisdiction finds that satellite-based monitoring can be imposed on the class member consistent with the Fourth Amendment Article 1, Section 20 of the United States North Carolina Constitution.

Plaintiff, on behalf of herself and the other class members seeks damages from Defendant Erik Hooks in his individual capacity for violating the clearly established constitutional right of persons not under probation, parole, or post-release supervision to be free from satellite-based monitoring imposed solely under the portions of N.C.G.S. §§ 14-208.40A(c) and 14-208.40B(c) declared unconstitutional by the North Carolina Supreme Court in *State v. Grady*, 372 N.C. 509, 831 S.E.2d 542 (2019).

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3. Defendant BI Inc.

91. All preceding paragraphs are incorporated herein by reference.

92. With regard to the named Plaintiff and each of the class members,
Defendant BI Incorporated ("BI Inc.") is currently conducting a "search"
within the meaning of the Fourth Amendment of the United States
Constitution.

93. In conducting this search, BI Inc. is acting under color of state law.

94. This search is being conducted on the named Plaintiff and the other class members.

95. This search is unreasonable and in violation of an injunction issued by a court with jurisdiction over BI Inc.

96. This search is in violation of clearly established law.

97. A reasonable person, including Defendant BI Inc., would know that this search is in violation of clearly established law.

98. Conduct of this search is in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

99. Plaintiff, on behalf of herself and the other class members seeks

declaratory relief and that an injunction issue against Defendant BI Inc.

ordering it to cease satellite based monitoring of the named Plaintiff and the
other class members unless and until a court of competent jurisdiction finds

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that satellite based monitoring can be imposed on the class member consistent with the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution.

100. Plaintiff, on behalf of herself and the other class members seeks damages from Defendant BI Inc. for violating the clearly established constitutional right of persons not under probation, parole, or post release supervision to be free from satellite based monitoring imposed solely under the portions of N.C.G.S. §§ 14 208.40A(c) and 14 208.40B(c) declared unconstitutional by the North Carolina Supreme Court in State v. Grady, 372 N.C. 509, 831 S.E.2d 542 (2019).

4. Defendant Reliant Management, Inc.

100. All preceding paragraphs are incorporated herein by reference.

101. With regard to the named Plaintiff and each of the class members,

Defendant Reliant Management, Inc. ("Reliant") is currently conducting a

"search" within the meaning of the Fourth Amendment of the United States

Constitution.

102. In conducting this search, Reliant is acting under color of state law.

103. This search is being conducted on the named Plaintiff and the other class members.

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104. This search is unreasonable and in violation of an injunction issued by a court with jurisdiction over Reliant.

105. This search is in violation of clearly established law.

106. A reasonable person, including Defendant Reliant, would know that this search is in violation of clearly established law.

107. Conduct of this search is in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

declaratory relief and that an injunction issue against Defendant Reliant ordering it to cease satellite based monitoring of the named Plaintiff and the other class members unless and until a court of competent jurisdiction finds that satellite based monitoring can be imposed on the class member consistent with the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution.

109. Plaintiff, on behalf of herself and the other class members seeks damages from Defendant Reliant for violating the clearly established constitutional right of persons not under probation, parole, or post release supervision to be free from satellite based monitoring imposed solely under the portions of N.C.G.S. §§ 14 208.40A(c) and 14 208.40B(c) declared unconstitutional by the North Carolina Supreme Court in State v. Grady, 372 N.C. 509, 831 S.E.2d 542 (2019).

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B. Article 1, Section 20 of the North Carolina Constitution

1. Defendant Erik Hooks in his official capacity.

110.1. All preceding paragraphs are incorporated herein by reference.

111.1. With regard to the named Plaintiff and each of the class members, Defendant Erik Hooks, in his official capacity, is currently conducting a "search" within the meaning of Article 1, Section 20 of the North Carolina Constitution.

This search is being conducted on the named Plaintiff and the other class members.

113. This search is unreasonable and in violation of the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution.

114. As a violation of the Fourth Amendment of the United States

Constitution, this search is also in violation of Article 1, Section 20 of the

North Carolina Constitution, which is not less protective than the Fourth

Amendment of the United States Constitution.

115. Plaintiff, on behalf of herself and the other class members seeks

declaratory relief and that an injunction issue against Defendant Erik Hooks
in his official capacity ordering him to cease satellite-based monitoring of the
named Plaintiff and the other class members unless and until a court of
competent jurisdiction finds that satellite based monitoring can be imposed

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on the class member consistent with the Article 1, Section 20 of the North Carolina State Constitution.

2. Defendant BI Inc.

116. All preceding paragraphs are incorporated herein by reference.

117. With regard to the named Plaintiff and each of the class members,

Defendant BI Inc. ("BI Inc.") is currently conducting a "search" within the

meaning of Article 1, Section 20 of the North Carolina State Constitution.

118. In conducting this search, BI Inc. is acting under color of state law.

119. This search is being conducted on the named Plaintiff and the other

class members.

120. This search is unreasonable and in violation of the Fourth Amendment

of the United States Constitution.

121. As a violation of the Fourth Amendment of the United States

Constitution, this search is also in violation of Article 1, Section 20 of the

North Carolina State Constitution which is not less protective than the

Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution.

122. Plaintiff, on behalf of herself and the other class members seeks

declaratory relief and that an injunction issue against Defendant BI Inc.

ordering it to cease satellite based monitoring of the named Plaintiff and the

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other class members unless and until a court of competent jurisdiction finds
that satellite based monitoring can be imposed on the class member
consistent with the Article 1, Section 20 of the North Carolina State
Constitution.

3. Defendant Reliant Management

123. All preceding paragraphs are incorporated herein by reference.

124. With regard to the named Plaintiff and each of the class members,

Defendant Reliant Management, Inc. ("Reliant") is currently conducting a

"search" within the meaning of Article 1, Section 20 of the North Carolina

State Constitution.

125. In conducting this search, Reliant is acting under color of state law.

126. This search is being conducted on the named Plaintiff and the other class members.

127. This search is unreasonable and in violation of the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution.

128. As a violation of the Fourth Amendment of the United States

Constitution, this search is also in violation of Article 1, Section 20 of the

North Carolina State Constitution which is not less protective than the

Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution.

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129. Plaintiff, on behalf of herself and the other class members seeks declaratory relief and that an injunction issue against Defendant Reliant ordering it to cease satellite based monitoring of the named Plaintiff and the other class members unless and until a court of competent jurisdiction finds that satellite-based monitoring can be imposed on the class member consistent with the Article 1, Section 20 of the North Carolina State Constitution.

C. Battery

130. By requiring class members to continue wearing monitoring equipment without lawful authority to so require such continued wear, Defendants BI Inc. and Reliant have caused bodily contact with Sandra Grant and the class members.

131. Defendants BI Inc. and Reliant, through their employees, themselves acting within the scope of their employment, have intentionally required Sandra Grant and the class members to continue wearing such monitoring equipment thereby causing bodily contact with Sandra Grant and the class members.

132. This bodily contact actually offends the reasonable sense of personal dignity of Sandra Grant and the class members and causes actual physical pain to Sandra Grant and the class members.

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133. This bodily contact is without the consent of Sandra Grant and the class members.

134. This bodily contact has caused damages to Sandra Grant and the class members.

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WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, on behalf of herself and others similarly situated, prays the Court:

1) For a declaratory judgment that continued imposition of satellite-based monitoring upon the class member is in violation of their rights under the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution and

Article 1, Section 20 of the North Carolina State Constitution.

2)1) For an Order directing Defendant Erik Hooks, in his official and individual capacities, and Defendants BI Inc. and Reliant to immediately cease satellite-based monitoring of the class members and to immediately remove from their persons the equipment used to conduct satellite-based monitoring.

3)1) For an award of damages against Defendant Erik Hooks, in his individual capacity, and against Defendants BI Inc. and Reliant, jointly and severally, in an amount greater than Twenty-Five Thousand dollars (\$25,000.00);

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4)1) For attorney's fees pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1988 and any other applicable statute; or the common law of the State of North Carolina. 5)1) For costs of this action; and 6)1) For any and all such other relief as may be just and equitable. Formatted: Widow/Orphan control This is the 10th 24th day of June September, 2020. /s/ Paul M. Dubbeling Paul M. Dubbeling Formatted: Widow/Orphan control P.M. Dubbeling, PLLC 210 North Columbia Street Chapel Hill, NC 27514 (919) 635-6005 Telephone (919) 404-7074 Facsimile paul.dubbeling@pmdubbeling.com NC Bar # 47014 Attorney for Plaintiff Formatted: Font: 13 pt, Not Italic, English (United States) Formatted: Justified, Space Before: 0 pt, After: 0 pt, Line spacing: single, Don't keep with next Formatted: Font: Times New Roman, 12 pt Formatted: Font: Times New Roman, 12 pt 25